

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
13 January 2005 (13.01.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2005/003773 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: G01N 33/543,  
33/96

[DK/DK]; c/o DakoCytomation Denmark A/S, Produktionsvej 42, DK-2600 Glostrup (DK). PII, Kurt [DK/DK];  
c/o DakoCytomation Denmark A/S, Produktionsvej 42,  
DK-2600 Glostrup (DK).

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/IB2004/002682

(74) Agents: KHOO, Chong-Yee et al.; D. Young & Co., 120  
Holborn, London EC1N 2DY (GB).

(22) International Filing Date: 8 July 2004 (08.07.2004)

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
*[Continued on next page]*

(26) Publication Language: English

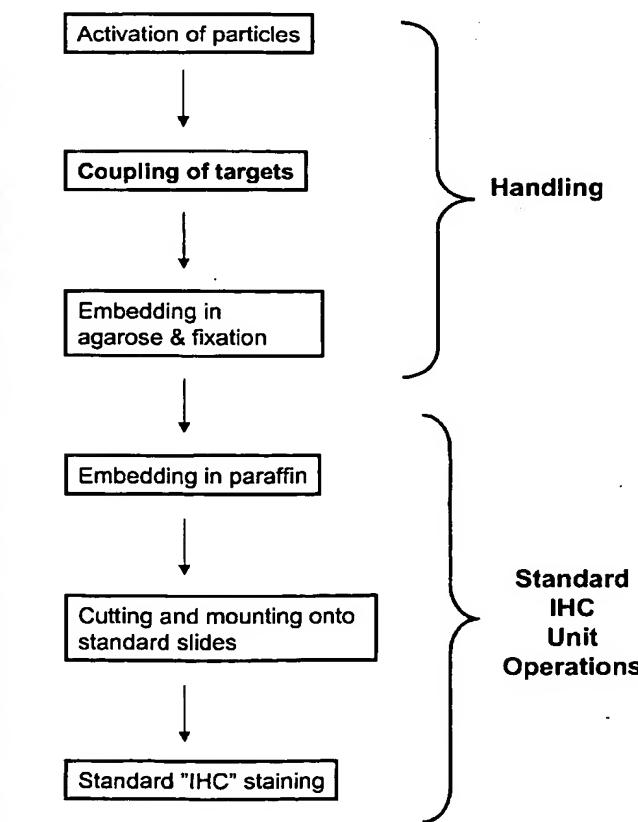
(30) Priority Data:  
0315991.0 8 July 2003 (08.07.2003) GB  
60/486,381 11 July 2003 (11.07.2003) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DAKO-  
CYTOMATION DENMARK A/S [DK/DK]; Produktionsvej 42,  
DK-2600 Glostrup (DK).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WINTHER, Lars

(54) Title: STANDARD



(57) Abstract: We disclose a reference standard for a detectable entity, the reference standard comprising a support medium, preferably an embedding medium, a compact particle having a compact shape with a quantity of detectable entity coupled thereto and supported by the medium, in which the compact particle is a biological, preferably cellular compact particle, preferably a cellular compact particle. We also disclose a reference standard for a detectable entity, the reference standard comprising a support medium, preferably an embedding medium, a compact particle having a compact shape with a quantity of detectable entity coupled thereto and supported by the medium, in which the compact particle is a non-biological compact particle, preferably a non-cellular compact particle having cell-like dimensions, preferably less than 1.5 mm.

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GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

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